

# The Pete Smith Collection of Numismatist Mirrors

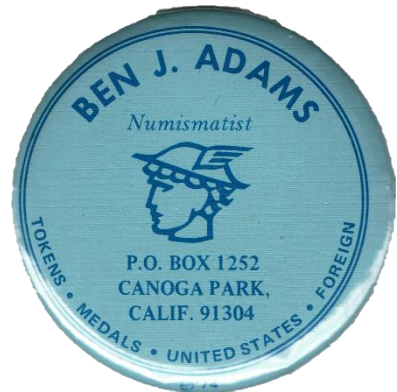
A Work-in-Progress 3-9-2024

Numismatist mirrors have received very little attention in numismatic literature and there has been no complete listing. This article was created specifically for the Newman Numismatic Portal and intended for publication only in NNP.

All mirrors shown (except one) are in the collection of the author.

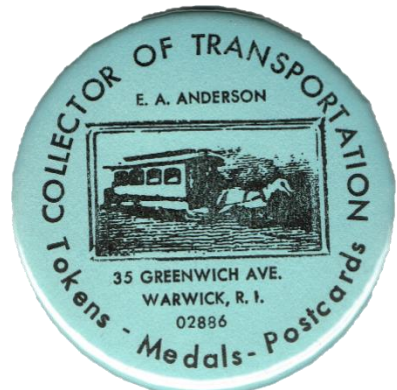
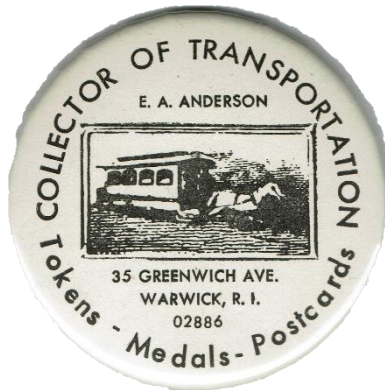
Adams, Ben J.  
P. O. Box 1252  
Canoga Park, CA 91304

Dark Blue on Light Blue  
2.5 inch diameter, 63mm.  
Issued in 1974 by EM



Anderson, E(imer) A.  
35 Greenwich Avenue  
Warwick, RI 02886

Black on White  
2.3 in, 58mm, Badge-A-Minit



Black on Blue  
2.3 in, 58mm, Badge-A-Minit

Baber, Dorothy C. (1920-2021)  
President of TAMS 1994-1996  
Wife of Al, Mother of Larry Baber  
“GOOD FOR 1 DRINK”

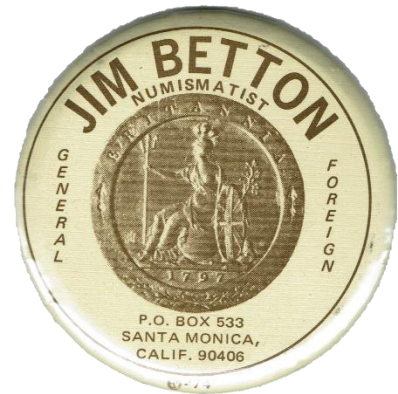
Black on White  
2.3 inch, 57 mm.  
Issued in 1996 by Badge-A-Minit



Betten, Jim  
P. O. Box 533  
Santa Monica, CA 90406

Brown on Tan  
2.5 in, 63mm by EM 1974

James Betten was an NLG board member.



Dillingham, Paul (1932-2016)  
P. O. Box 17241  
Nashville, TN 37217

Black on White, unmarked maker.  
3.1 x 2.1 in, 78mm x 53 mm.

The only mirror seen with a rectangular format.



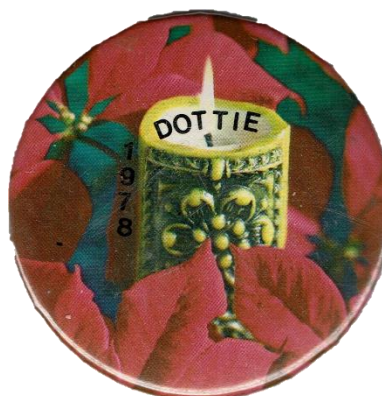
Dow, Dottie (1924-2004)

Merry Christmas 1978  
Black on White  
2.3 in, 58 mm. Badge-A-Minit

Branch with Flowers  
Pink on White  
2.3 in, 58 mm. Badge-A-Minit

Poinsettia with Candle  
Red and White  
2.3 in, 58 mm. Badge-A-Minit

Sled 1978  
Green on White  
2.3 in, 58 mm. Badge-A-Minit



Angel with Trumpet 1978  
 Blue on White  
 2.3 in, 58mm. Badge-A-Minit

Elongated cent  
 Copper on Pink  
 2.2 in, 55mm. not marked

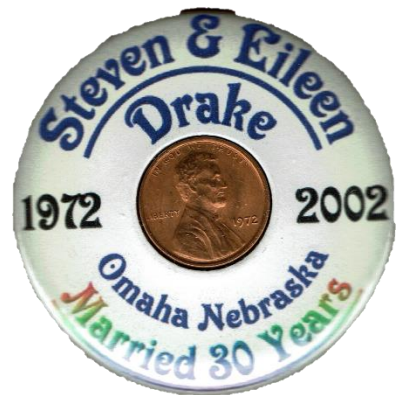


Dottie Dow and Lee Martin were co-authors of *Yesterday's Elongateds* published in 1981. Dow was a prolific issuer of elongated coins and her "handshake tokens." She was a founding member of the Elongated Collector (TEC). She served as President of the Token and Medals Society (TAMS) in 1974 to 1976. She issued a series of PNC's from 1971 to 1975 numbered 1 to 50 but included more varieties.

Drake, Steven and Eileen  
 Omaha, Nebraska

Black on White  
 2.2 in, 55 mm.

Includes encased 1972 cent.  
 Sold by ACE for \$5 in 2002.



Dunn, Hal V. (1935-2006) (Harold Vincent Dunn, Jr.)  
 American Vecturist Association President 1977-1979

2.3 inch diameter, 59mm. by Badge-A-Mint  
 Black on White [AVA 1111O] [Fare Box Oct 1977]  
 Black on Tan [AVA 1111P] [Fare Box Oct 1977]

Dunn served as the sheriff of Ormsby County, Nevada, from January 1, 1979, to January 5, 1987. The county includes Carson City, Nevada,





The author met Dunn in 1996 outside a hotel in Denver while both were waiting for the ANA convention shuttle bus.

Dunn was the author of *Catalog of Western Good For Trade Mirrors* published in 1995. It was logical for him to also produce advertising mirror cards.

Black on Orange [AVA 1111Q]

Black on Green [AVA 1111R]

Black on Blue [AVA1111S]

Black on White [AVA 1111T]

Black on Tan [AVA 1111U]

[All in *The Fare Box* Jan 1979]

The same equipment may be used to produce pin back buttons and Dunn had some made with the same front as on the mirrors.

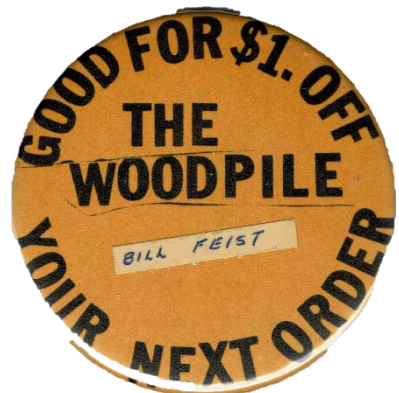


Feist, Bill  
The Woodpile  
Resident of Santa Rosa, CA

Black on Orange

2.3 in, 58mm, by Badge-A-Minit

“Bill Feist” is on a label applied over the mirror. Feist was a prolific issuer of wooden money under the trade name “The Woodpile.”



Gould, Maurice (1909-1975)  
P. O. Box 1500  
Tustin, CA 92680

Blue on White

2.5 in, 63mm, [AVA 335F] by EM in 1974 [Fare Box Apr 1981]

Blue on Blue,

2.5 in, 63mm, [AVA 335G] by EM in 1974 [Fare Box Apr 1981]



Gould was the author of a weekly column, "Coin Roundup" that appeared in 56 newspapers. He was a partner with Frank Washburn in Copley Coin Company 1951 to 1956.

Gould received the ANA Farran Zerbe Award posthumously in 1976. In 1988, Gould was inducted into the ANA Numismatic Hall of Fame.



Gould Mirror includes 1974-D Lincoln cent.

2.5 in, 63 mm by EM in 1974

Good For 65¢ in cash. Qualifies as a trade token



Greene, Gordon Z (1902-1977)  
1202-D East Walnut Street  
Santa Ana, CA 92701  
Galaxie Designs

Green on White

2.5 in, 63 mm. Issued in 1973 by EM

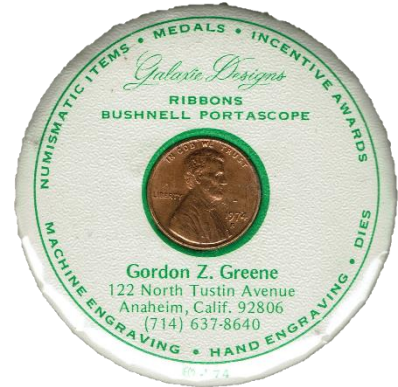


Greene Mirror

Green on White with encased 1974-S cent

2.5 in, 62 mm, Issues in 1974 by EM

Acquired in January 2017.

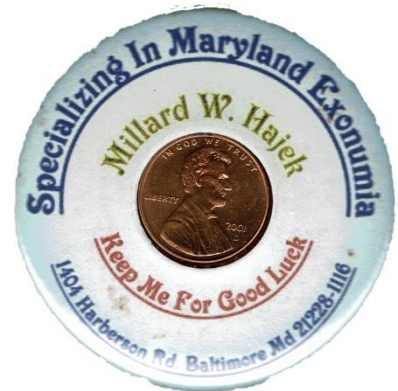


Hajek. Millard W.

Black on White with encased 2001-D cent

2.25 in, 56 mm.

Acquired in March, 2024.



Hendrickson, Alvin (1920-2011)

Warren, MN

Black on Yellow

2.3 in, 58 mm [AVA 1213C] by Badge-A-Minit

Trolley in 42 mm circle

Listed in *The Fare Box* April 1977.



Black on Yellow

2.3 in, 58 mm, by Badge-A-Minit

A rare variety with the trolley in a 54 mm circle and lettering wrapped around the edge. Not in the AVA listing.

Discovered by the author in 2015 in a large lot of tokens acquired from Rich Hartzog.





Koppenhaver, Paul L. (1932-2012)  
P. O. Box 430  
Van Nuys, CA 91408

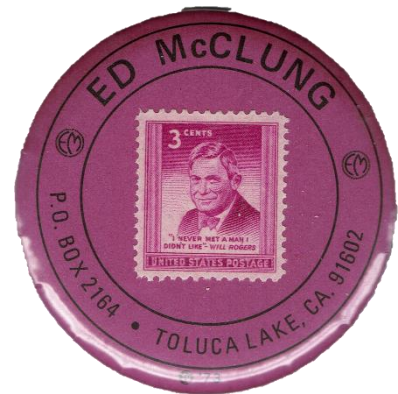
Dark Blue on Light Blue  
2.5 in, 63mm, Issued in 1974 by EM

Good for \$1.00 in Trade, Qualifies as a trade token.



McClung, Ed (1920-1995)  
P. O. Box 2164  
Tolucka Lake, CA 91602

Black on Purple  
2.5 in, 63mm, Issued in 1973 by EM  
McClung was a founding member of the Numismatic Literary Guild.



Mitchell, Ruth and Ralph  
Fullerton, CA (1902-1991)

Blue on White  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974

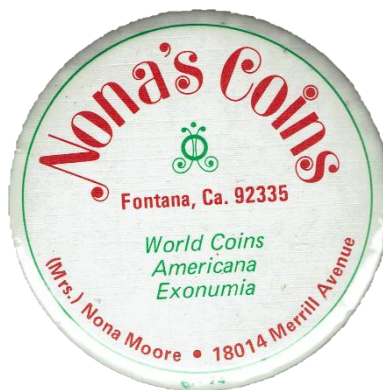


Red on Light Blue  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974

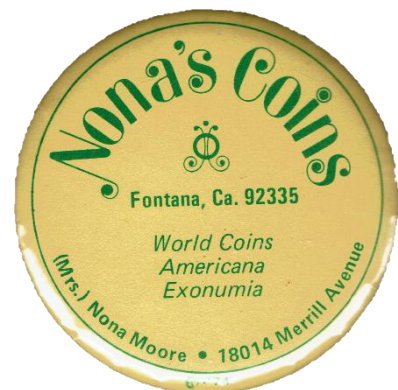


Moore, Nona  
18014 Merrill Avenue  
Fontana, CA

Red on White  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974



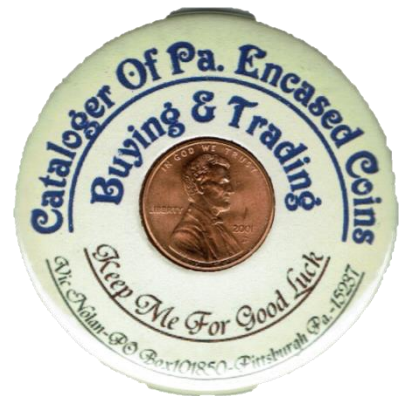
Green on Yellow  
2.5 in, 63mm by EM in 1974



Nolan, Vic  
P. O. Box 101850  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Black on White  
2.2 in, 55 mm., no maker's mark.

With encased 2002-D cent



Pernicano, Joseph V. (1916-2004)  
58 Sonia Lane  
Broomall, PA 19008

Black on Aqua  
59mm, [AVA 923D-923F]  
The AVA lists this piece in aqua  
and in blue. This is the only  
color seen.



Black on White  
58 mm, Badge-A-Minit  
[AVA 923F]  
Black on Pink  
58mm, Badge-A-Minit  
[AVA 923D] Fare Box Jun 81  
Black on Green  
58mm, Badge-A-Minit  
[AVA 923T]



Plencner, Nick (1924-2014)  
Warren, MN  
Edge: COLLECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TOKENS  
Does not show on image.

Black on Red [Fare Box Oct 1977]  
2.3 in, 58 mm by Badge-A-Minit [AVA 1232B]



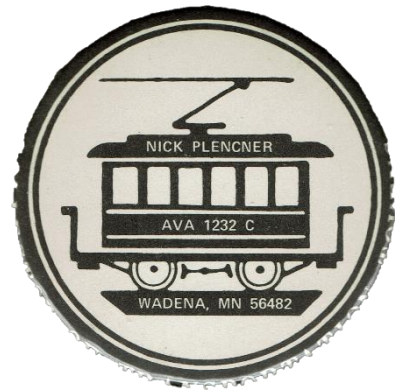


White on Black

2.3in, 58mm by Badge-A-Minit [AVA 1232C]

Edge: COLLECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TOKENS

Does not show on image.



Roth, Cliff & Bernie

North Hollywood, CA

Bernice A. Roth (1904-1982)

Cliff Roth (1902-1987)

Blue on White

2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974

Blue on White, no maker mark

63mm, encased 1975 cent.



Sabol, Elmer D. (1933-2011)

Warren, MN

Edge: COLLECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TOKENS

Green on White

2.3 in, 59mm by Badge-A-Minit [AVA1375C]

Listed in *The Fare Box* July 1977.



Sailor, Harry (1912-1998)

Warren, MN 56762

Edge: COLLECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TOKENS

Black on White

2.3 in, 58mm by Badge-A-Minit [AVA 375E]

Listed in *The Fare Box* July 1977.



Scardino, James  
2207 S. Ridgeland Avenue  
Berwin, IL 60402

Black on Blue  
2.5 in, 63mm by EM in 1974.



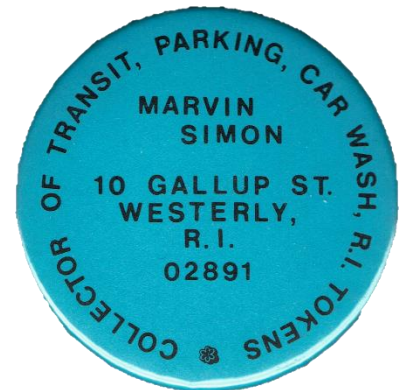
Searle, Emilie D. (possibly born in 1917)  
P. O. Box 964  
Tustin, CA 92680

Brown on Tan  
2.5 in, 63mm by EM in 1973.

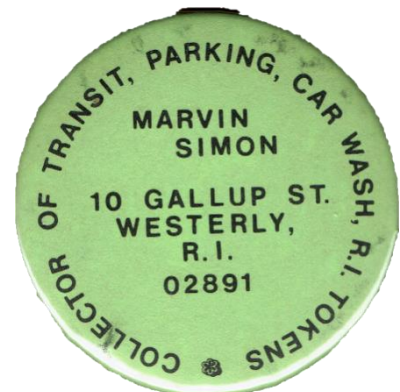


Simon, Marvin E.  
10 Gallup Street  
Westerly, RI 02891

Black on Blue  
2.3 in, 58mm, [AVA 1257E]  
100 of each by Badge-A-Minit.



Black on Green  
2.3 in, 58mm, [AVA 1257F]





Black on Lemon  
2.3 in, 58mm, [AVA 1257G]



Black on Yellow  
2.3 in, 58mm, [AVA 1257H]

Tanner, Martin  
Van Nuys, CA 91411

Red on White  
2.5 in, 63mm by EM in 1974.  
White on Red  
2.5 in, 63mm by EM in 1974.

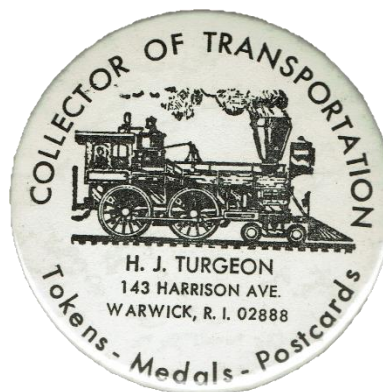


Townsend, Richard W.  
Rochester, NY

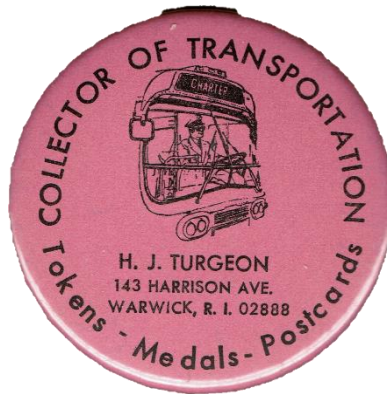
Red on White  
2.3 in, 58mm, by Badge-A-Minit  
with attached elongated cent, 1975



Turgeon, Hector Joseph (1920-2008)  
143 Harrison Avenue  
Warwick, RI 02888  
Black on White, locomotive  
[AVA 991D] [Fare Box Jan75]  
Black on White, trolley, [AVA 991E] [The Fare Box Nov 80]

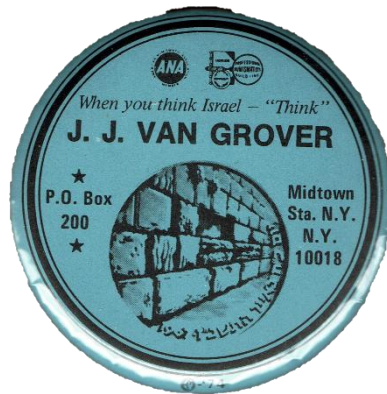


Black on Pink, bus, [AVA 991F] [The Fare Box Nov 1980]



Black on Green, horsecar, [AVA 991G] [Fare Box Nov 1980]  
All 2.3 in, 58mm, Badge-A-Minit

Van Grover, John Jacob  
P. O. Box 200  
Midtown Station, NY 10018



Black on Blue  
62mm by EM 1974  
Blue on White  
62mm by EM 1974

Wagaman, Alberta (1917-2007)  
Box 195-D  
Camby, IN 46113



Black on Pink  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1973

Black on Grey  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1973

The two pieces appear identical with the exception of the attached Lincoln stamps.





Wagaman, Lloyd, E.  
Box 195-D (1920-2005)  
Camby, IN 46113

Black on White by EM in '74  
64mm [AVA 1251Q]

Black on Blue  
59mm [AVA1251S]  
Listed in *Fare Box* Feb 1975.

The Wagaman crest pieces are  
not listed by the AVA.



## Antique Dealer

Evelyn Freyse (1908-2003)  
Antiques  
Tombstone, Ariz.

Black on White  
2.5 in, 63 mm, by EM in 1974

Not numismatic, Included as one of the  
Ed McClung issues.



# Coin Club Mirrors

The American British Numismatic Society  
Fifth Anniversary 1969-1974

Dark Blue on Light Blue  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974

Ed McClung was elected Vice President in 1971.



American Vecturist Association  
25<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
Los Angeles August 1975

Yellow on Black  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1975

Probably commissioned by Robert Ritterband.



Azteca Numismatic Society

Black on Green  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974.



Bay Cities Coin Club  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1944-1974  
Santa Monica, California

Black on Lavender  
2.5 in, 64 mm. by EM in 1974  
Sold for \$1.50 after the banquet. [Calcoin News, Fall 1974]





California State Numismatic Association

Black on Light Blue

2.5 in., 64 mm. by EM in 1973



California Exonumist Society

Lucky Thirteenth Anniversary Celebration

Black on Green

2.5 in., 64 mm by EM in 1974



Convention of International Numismatists (COIN)

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Breakfast

Blue on White

2.5 in, 64 mm by EM in 1974



Hawaii State Numismatic Association

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

November 14-17, 1974

Black on White

2.5 in, 64 mm by EM in 1974



Indiana – Kentucky – Ohio Token and Medal Society

Black and Red on White  
2.3 in, 55 mm by Badge-A-Mint



Israel Coin Club of San  
Fernando Valley

White on Blue, Blue on White  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974



Israel Numismatic Society of Orange County  
First Installation Banquet  
California December 7, 1974

Blue on White  
2.5 in, 63mm by EM in 1974



Maryland Token And Medal Society  
2,2 in., 56mm. with encased 2001D Lincoln cent.  
Issued at 2002 Annual Meeting with text"

MD TAMS

2002 Annual Meeting

Give-away

See reverse of souvenir  
For a "Super Exonumist"//  
MD TAMS logo



Numismatic Association of  
Southern California

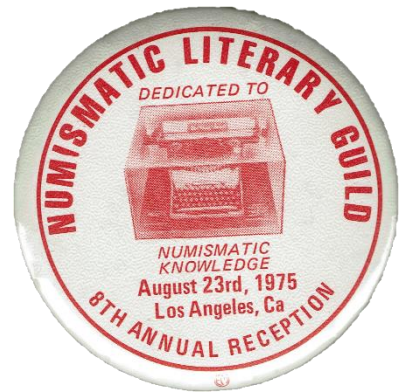
19<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet  
2.5 in, 63 mm, 400 issued by EM  
in 1973

5<sup>th</sup> Annual Club Workshop  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1975



Numismatic Literary Guild  
8<sup>th</sup> Annual Reception - 1975

Red on White  
2.5 in, 63 mm, by EM in 1975



Port Huron Coin Club, Michigan  
Happy Holidays Christmas 1974

Red and Green on White  
2.5 in, 63 mm, by EM in 1974



San Bernardino County Coin Club  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - 1973

Blue on Blue  
2.5 in, 63 mm, by EM in 1973





Society of International  
Numismatists  
2<sup>nd</sup> S.I.N. International Coin  
Show

Black and Red on White  
2.5 in, 63 mm by EM in 1974



The Elongated Collector (TEC)  
Tenth Anniversary 1966-1976

Black on White  
2.3 In, 58 mm, by Badge-A-Minit.

Also seen in black on blue in TEC PNC.



Token and Medal Society (TAMS)  
14<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
Bal Harbor, Florida 1974

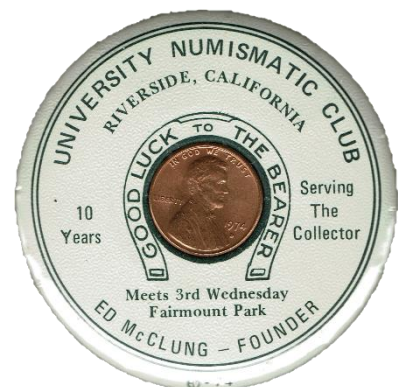
Black on Lavender  
2.5 In, 63mm by EM in 1974



University Numismatic Club  
Riverside, California

Black on White  
2.5 in, 63mm by EM in 1974 with enclosed 1974-D cent

Founded by Ed McClung



West Valley Coin Club

Red on White

2.5 in, 63mm by EM in 1974





## Coin Dealer Mirrors

Eagle Coin Co.  
Fort Dodge, Iowa

Black on Yellow  
2.3 in, 58 mm by Badge-A-Minit

Acquired on eBay in January, 2017.  
Robert A. Joslin (1935-2005) was proprietor. The mirror was likely issued in 1976-1977.



Eagle Coin Co.  
Fort Dodge, Iowa

Black on Yellow  
2.3 in, 58 mm by Badge-A-Minit

Acquired on eBay in November, 2021.



Eagle Coin Co.  
Fort Dodge, Iowa

Black on Yellow  
2.3 in, 58 mm, by Badge-a-Minit

Seen on internet, not in the collection.



Eagle Coin Co. / Robert A. Joslin (1935-2005)  
Owatonna, Minnesota.

Black on Yellow  
2.3 in, 58 mm by Badge-A-Minit

Joslin's address was at Cedar Mall in 1978-1979.



Gold Bug Coin Shops, Inc.  
5349 N. Keystone  
Indianapolis, IN 46220

Black on Orange  
2.3 in, 58 mm, by Badge-A-Minit

Good for \$5 in Trade



Theatre Comique  
Port Griffin, Texas  
Jerry Adams & Bob Smith

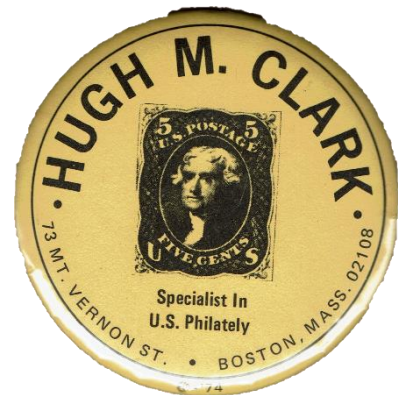
Black on White  
2.2 in, 55 mm, unmarked maker.  
With encased 1956-D cent.  
Acquired from Adams at 2007 NATCA Show.



## Philatelic Mirrors

Clark, Hugh M.  
73 Mt. Vernon St  
Boston, MA 02108

Black on Yellow  
2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974.



Harry E. Graetz Stamp Co.  
5808 E. 97<sup>th</sup> Terrace  
Kansas City, MO 64134

Black on Yellow  
2.5 in, 63 mm, by EM in 1973





Oxnard Stamp Mart  
Oxnard, California  
Don Geilen, Philatelist

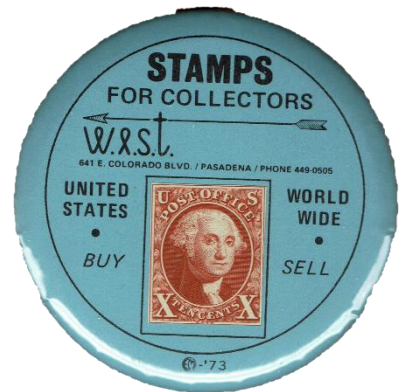
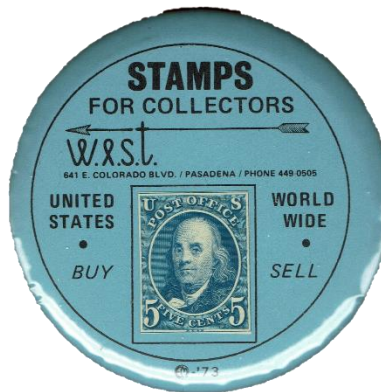
Black on Blue

2.5 in, 63mm, by EM in 1974.



Stamps For Collectors  
641 E. Colorado Blvd  
Pasadena, California

2.5 in, 63 mm by EM in 1973  
Identical except for stamps.



Western Philatelics, Inc.  
65 Old Town Mall  
Torrance, CA 90503

Black on White  
2.5 in, 63 mm by EM in 1974.

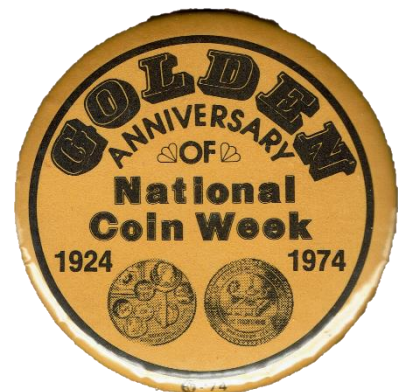


## Miscellaneous

National Coin Week  
Golden Anniversary 1924-1974

Black on Yellow  
2.5 in, 63 mm, by EM in 1974

President Reagan announced National Coin Week for April 17, 1983. Prior commemoration by the ANA was irregular.



National Token, Medal & Exonumia Collectors Jamboree  
Third Annual - 1975

Black on Red  
2.5 in, 63 mm, by EM in 1974



Cheramy, Glenda & John  
Box 5214 STN B.,  
Victoria, BC V8R 6N4

Green on White  
2.2 in, 55 mm, M&S Promotions.

The only Canadian piece in the collection.





# Philatelic Numismatic Combinations (PNC's)

PNC's include an envelope, a stamp, a cancellation and some enclosed numismatic item. Many have been produced with elongated coins. Three are known with encased numismatist mirrors. It is possible that some mirrors survive without the original packaging.



American Numismatic Association 1976 cancellation / 7.5 x 5.5 envelope

TEC TENTH ANNIVERSARY mirror

Next Page: American Numismatic Association 1977 cancellation / 6.4 x 4.7 envelope

CHESTRER ROGERS / TEC / BOARD OF DIRECTOR mirror

LLOYD WAGAMAN / TEC / PAST PRESIDENT mirror





AMERICAN  
NUMISMATIC  
ASSOCIATION  
86TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
AUGUST 23-28, 1977  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



AMERICAN  
NUMISMATIC  
ASSOCIATION  
86TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
AUGUST 23-28, 1977  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



# Mirror Makers

## Badge-A-Minit

The Badge-A-Minit company [LaSalle, IL 60301] began in business about 1972 and remains in business in 2021. They sell the equipment and supplies used to produce pinback buttons and mirrors. This equipment may be acquired by individuals or by companies that provide the service for their customers.

Each of their mirrors is constructed from six parts. These include a clear plastic cover, the artwork, a metal backing, the mirror, a metal retaining ring and a pressure spring. It is assembled using a hand press.

All pieces seen are 2.25 to 2.3 inch diameter. Maker's name is stamped on the retaining ring.

## EM Creations

A business conducted by Ed McClung. (Edward L. McClung) Their pieces are 2.5 inch diameter with a maker's mark near the rim at 6 O'clock. Between 100 and 400 of each were issued. Aftermarket sales were at \$1.50 each.



By 1973 McClung had retired from the construction business. He was affiliated with Medallions Unlimited and Trademark medallions. Edward L McClung was born November 12, 1921 and died November 29, 1995.



# About Mirrors

Celluloid pinback buttons were introduced in 1896 by Whitehead and Hoag. Celluloid advertising mirrors appeared shortly afterward. Some included a “Good For” message and are collected along with other “Good For” trade tokens.

Popular among collectors are mirrors advertising saloons and mirrors featuring pictures of women. The great era for these mirrors was before prohibition. Typical celluloid mirrors were round and 2.25 inches in diameter or oval about 2.75 x 1.75 inches. Modern reproductions exist.

Hundreds of advertising mirrors were issued with clear plastic covers after World War II. They are probably all collectible for someone.

The earliest numismatist mirrors or mirror cards seen were made by EM Creations in 1973. Then 1974 was the greatest year for EM mirrors. Most were produced for clients in southern California.

The American Vecturist Association listing of *Personal Tokens of Vecturists* was published in 1975. It did not list any mirrors. They began appearing in *The Fare Box* starting in 1977. Almost all of the AVA mirrors were done by Badge-A-Minit. The earliest dated AVA mirror was done by EM for Lloyd Wagaman in 1974.

Maurice Gould had mirror cards produced by EM Creations in 1974. These were later accepted also as AVA Personal Tokens. However, they were then delisted in 2009 because they did not mention the AVA or transportation token collecting.

The EM Creation mirrors came with a larger collection acquired from Ray Dillard. Most of the AVA mirrors came with large collections of AVA Personal Tokens. A couple were acquired by trade. The pieces issued after 2000 were acquired at time of issue.

The author has attended many coin shows around the country for more than fifty years. He does not recall ever seeing a numismatist mirror offered at a coin bourse in a dealer’s case. This listing includes an example of every mirror seen or heard about.

The collection is dominated by mirrors issued in Southern California between 1973 and 1975. Does this reflect on the number of pieces made or just on the number acquired by the original collector?

## Articles

“Ed McClung presides over mirror card rebirth.” *Coin World*, March 12, 1975, page 26.

Hal Dunn, “Good For Trade Mirrors,” *The Brasher Bulletin*, Fall/Winter 2010.

Doris McClung, “Ed McClung,” *Calcoin News*. Vol. 28, No. 4, Fall 1974.